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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: comment on proposed final judgement

As a professional programmer, I would like to comment on the proposed final judgement in the Microsoft anti-trust lawsuit. Over the past ten years or so, Microsoft has used its monopoly in the operating systems market to lock out competition in business software and programmers software. It wasn't so long ago that Lotus sold the leading spreadsheet, Borland sold the leading programming language software, Word Perfect had the best selling word processor, Netscape had the biggest market share in Web browsers, dBase sold the most spreadsheets, Qualcomm Eudora was the most popular email, and so on. How did Microsoft effectively eliminate all of these competitors, all of whom had seemingly insurmountable head starts? They have done this by a variety of anti-competitive practices that have now been judged to be illegal. It has taken years for the judicial system to reach this conclusion and all during this time Microsoft has continued to exploit its monopoly position. Now the proposed final judgement fails to split Microsoft's operating system and applications businesses. The company will surely find ways to evade the letter of any restrictions placed on it while continuing to monopolize all aspects of the computer business.

The proposed final judgement is too soft on Microsoft.

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